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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: A statement* is placed on the table of the House.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN: From the statement placed on the table of the House it is evident that more than 1½ lakhs of animals were slaughtered within the past three months. Were these animals certified by the competent Veterinary surgeons as being unfit for domestic purposes?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Yes, Sir. The report says: 'The slaughter houses in the Madras City are under the control of the Health Officer, Corporation of Madras. The provisions of the Madras Animal Preservation Act are enforced in all slaughter houses which are duly inspected by the Animal Husbandry Department staff. In the case of buffalo, sheep, goats and pigs no young or pregnant animals are allowed for slaughter in the Corporation slaughter houses'.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that because of the low number of animals that get into these slaughter-house the price of meat has gone up abnormally in the City of Madras? (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: I am afraid I cannot help in the matter. Under the legislation passed by both the Houses, useful animals are not permitted to be slaughtered.

Artesian and exploratory tubewells

* 42 Q.—**SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) the number of artesian and exploratory tubewells proposed to be sunk in South Arcot during the year 1960 and the cost thereof;

(b) the number of such wells so far sunk and the extent of land irrigated by them;

(c) whether it is a fact that the exploratory tubewells in South Arcot are run by motors and if so, the water rate for an acre of land; and

(d) whether there is any proposal before the Government to give benefits of electricity to Meitukuppam in Vridhachalam taluk for running tubewells and if so, when?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (a) Fifty-four artesian wells are proposed to be sunk in South Arcot district during 1960-61 at a cost of Rs. 8,10,000. The number of exploratory tubewells that will be sunk under the second project of the exploratory tubewells organization of the Government of India in this State has not yet been fixed.

(b) Twenty-three wells have been sunk up to 30th October 1960 and about 3,015 acres will be irrigated. Out of 12 wells sunk by the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation under their first project, two artesian wells have ceased to function, and two other wells are intended for drinking water purposes. At present, three sub-artesian

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wells and one artesian well are functioning and the area irrigated by these works is 376.69 acres. The remaining wells are expected to function shortly.

(c) No, Sir. They are run by oil engines only. A provisional water rate of Rs. 45 per acre has been fixed pending fixation of final rate based on the cost data for individual wells, which are still awaited from the Government of India.

(d) No, Sir.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Sir, under what conditions the tube well at Parvatipuram near Vadalur was sunk?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, I do not have particulars with me about the particular tubewell scheme.

Hindi Pandits

* 43 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the Hindi Pandits appointed prior to 1st January, 1948 in the service of the Thanjavur District Board about the reduction in their emoluments and the recoveries effected; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: (a) Yes, Sir. A representation was received from one Hindi Pandit.

(b) The proceedings of the Special Officer ordering the recovery were cancelled.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Thank you, Sir.

Postal forms

* 44 Q.—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether this Government have made any representation to the Government of India that postal forms for use in the State may be printed both in English and Tamil?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The Central Government have decided to bring out some of the important postal forms, such as inland money order forms, Registration acknowledgment forms, etc. in the regional language besides printing them in English.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN: இந்தக் கோரிக்கை பல நாட்களாக இருந்து வருகிறது. இதனைத் துரிதப்படுத்த அரசாங்கம் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்குமா?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: இது மத்திய அரசாங்கம் செய்ய வேண்டியது. இதைச் சீக்கிரமாகச் செய்யும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறோம்.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: Are the forms in Hindi abolished, Sir?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: They are not abolished. As far as we are concerned, we would be supplied with new money order forms either in English or in the regional language when they are printed.